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OCT 18 1965

October 14, 1965

Dr. Robert J. Glaser, Dean
Stanford School of Medicine
Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Dr. Glaser:

Upon returning from a recent trip to Utah I was delighted to find your reply of Sep. 23 among the accumulated mail. Yesterday Mr. Pratt's letter of Oct. 12 arrived, mentioning his suggestion that Dr. Lederberg comment further. I'd hoped for that ever since reading of him in Mr. Rosenfeld's recent Life summary.

The copy of Pharos is not yet assimilated, but a first reading places it far above the American Eugenics Society's Quarterly, whose June issue attempts a somewhat similar symposium. Frankly, I'm impatient with their redundant pedantry, almost as much as their reluctance to implement the titular "Eu". Pharos, on the other hand, communicates readily, even with a layman like me, and its scope seems spacious.

I've a long letter from Dr. Hermann Muller, too, in which he shares my feeling about the Society, to the point of shunning the word "eugenics". Should "Planned Parenthood" and "Progeny Planning" progress into "Planned Posterity"?

Under whatever name, wasn't the Life series a splendid advance? I note even Business Week chiming in; though verbosely archaic Scientific American's September issue and October lead article speak as though nothing can be done but praise the Lord and pass the plankton pie.

Even so, the Quantity aspect is being taken over by so many remarkably competent hands that it appears the frontier has moved on toward Quality, a much more nebulous area. By the time Mrs. Barrows and I no longer need our estate, at least, the Explosion should be damped by either foresight, fission, or fusion.

One of these days we may get up that way and arrange to meet you, but meanwhile my fondest hopes have been more than satisfied.

Many thanks,

P. S. Barrows

cc: Dr. Joshua Lederberg ✓

Mr. Peter E. Pratt